

Message Text

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44

ACTION DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6603

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 4464

FOR O/FADRC

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: AINF, OGEN

SUBJ: IMPLEMENTATION OF PRIVACY ACT OF 1974

REF: A) MONROVIA 4427; B) STATE A-4872

1. WISH BRING TO DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION EMBASSY'S CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE PRIVACY ACT AND PROVISIONS OF E.O. 11652 AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT WITH REGARD TO CLASSIFIED MATERIAL. SPECIFIC CASE IN POINT IS EMBASSY'S BIOGRAPHIC REPORTING FILES, REPORTED IN PARAGRAPH 12 OF MONROVIA 4427. FILES INCLUDE INDIVIDUAL BY VIRTUE OF HIS SIGNIFICANCE IN THE NATIONAL LIFE OF HIS COUNTRY. THEREFORE CONTAIN NAMES OF PERSONS WHO ARE NATIONALS AND PRESUMABLY CITIZENS OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY. REPORTABLE UNDER PRIVACY ACT, HOWEVER, BECAUSE IT IS KNOWN THAT SOME SMALL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ON WHOM INFORMATION IS KEPT ARE, IN ADDITION TO BEING LIBERIAN CITIZENS, ALSO LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES. POSSIBILITY THAT SOME SUBJECTS ON WHOM RECORDS KEPT MAY ALSO BE U.S. CITIZENS CANNOT BE DISCOUNTED ENTIRELY, BECAUSE MANY LIBERIANS IN HIGH PLACES HAVE SPOUSES OR CHILDREN BORN IN US.

2. WHILE FACT OF EXISTENCE OF SUCH FILES IS UNCLASSIFIED, THEIR LISTING IN FEDERAL REGISTER COULD CONCEIVABLY BE SENSITIVE. FULL FAITH DISCLOSURE OF OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED
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BY THE ACT, SUCH AS SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND USES, WOULD

REQUIRE THE CITING OF MATERIAL IN 11 FAM 311, WHICH CLASSIFIED
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3. AS IT MAY BE PRESUMED SIMILAR FILES EXIST OTHER EMBASSIES,
DEPARTMENT MAY WISH CONSIDER PROBLEM WITH VIEW TO ESTABLISHING
GENERAL POLICY ON REPORTABILITY AND HANDLING SUCH FILES UNDER
PRIVACY ACT.
MANFULL

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Message Attributes

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